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JUN 25 2004

In re Application of
Hideharu Nakajima et al
Application No. 10/071,909
Filed: February 7, 2002
Attorney Docket No. 112857-317

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS
ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed June 9, 2004, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed October 16, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 is limited to an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance or a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(b)). Since the amendment submitted does not *prima facie* placing the application in condition for allowance, no Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee), or a request for continuing application under 37 CFR 1.114 was timely filed. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on January 17, 2004.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Accordingly, since the \$950.00 extension of time submitted with the petition on June 9, 2004 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (703) 305-9282.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center AU 2814 for processing of the request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114.


Wan Laymon

Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy